

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS19111

Idaho Code 49-959 governs gases used in automotive air conditioning equipment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) have updated their air conditioning standards and the list of gases that are authorized for use as refrigerant gases. The new list of approved refrigerant gases includes some gases that have properties not permitted by the Code. The safe use of these gases is addressed in the updated SAE Standard, which is the standard cited in the Idaho State Police Administrative Rules governing Motor Vehicles. The proposal adds reference to refrigerants approved by the Environmental Protection Agency to the Code, to update Idaho Code and remove any conflict between Code and the administrative rules.

FISCAL NOTE

While there is no quantifiable fiscal impact to the general fund, there should be a positive impact to the industry. Removing the outdated Code language provides the automotive industry with options to use a wider selection of refrigerant gases that may be cheaper and safer for the environment.

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